

THE CONCRETE HERALD

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SLIDES CONTINUE TO PLAGUE PSPL

Mud from the slipping hillside above the powerhouse of the Lower Baker River Dam here, continued to harass the officials and employees last week as they fought to keep the doors of the powerhouse clear and the material moving from the rear of the building where a thick retaining wall shunted it around both sides of the building.

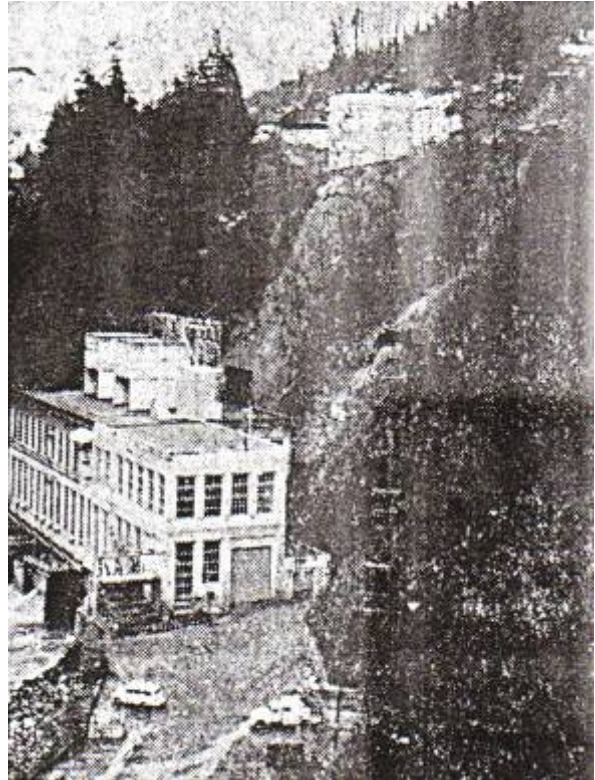
The slides on the hill above had been caused by the heavy rains. In the adjoining photo the paths of two separate channels of the mud and dirt can be seen coming down at the rear of the building. Work is continuous on the upper slopes to pump water pockets from the slide area and take weight off the loose masses of top soil.

The top photo, taken Friday, shows oozing mud blocking the two doors on the south end of the power house.

On Saturday a third slide area developed unexpectedly further to the south and came down across the parking area, sweeping two trucks parked there away. A pickup was pulled from the slide, but a panel truck went into the Baker River and disappeared. It had not been recovered over the weekend.

Sunday small slides continued in all three areas, hampering the efforts of loaders, trucks and bulldozers to clear the debris away. A respite in rainfall has aided the work, but more trouble is expected if weather starts again.

So far only minor pole-line damage has incurred to hamper power distribution. A new emergency line is being built to bring the Upper Baker Dam power in from a different



location. The present line is directly down the slide area.

The spreading word of the slide action has brought hundreds of onlookers to the observation point above the dam, from which these photos were taken.